McHenry County Department of Health

Memo

To: Health Care Providers

From: Laura Buthod, MD
        Medical Advisor

Date: March 26, 2020

Re: **Reporting COVID-19 Positive Testing Results**

Dear Colleagues,

We are asking for your assistance. You may not be aware that McHenry County Department of Health is NOT receiving positive COVID-19 results from private laboratories in many cases. Therefore, any POSITIVE reports you receive MUST be faxed to our confidential fax, 815-334-0191, as quickly as possible per IL Administrative Code requires reporting of Communicable Diseases,
http://ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/07700690sections.html.

In addition, we will need to obtain clinical information regarding the patient to conduct a case investigation. Please see attached document to help you gather the most important clinical information. Please fax this form to 815-334-0191 when it is completed as well. You may call our case investigators at 815-334-4500 with your questions.

As you know, the lag time in testing and receipt of results can be 3, to as many as 10 days in our experience. Transport of specimens, unavailability of testing reagents, and lack of manpower are contributing to these backlogs. MCDH DOES NOT get access to test results any faster than you do as the ordering physician. Therefore, please inform your patients NOT to call the MCDH for results. We notify positive cases to confirm they are aware of results and send an isolation order as soon as possible after our notification.

I am also attaching the Isolation/Quarantine graphic from IDPH for your reference.

Thank you for being our front line in these challenging times. We appreciate all you do in caring for the people of McHenry County.

Sincerely,
Laura